

News Release

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges Visitor Services

1434 316th Lane, Missouri Valley, IA 51555

712/388-4800 Fax: 712/642-4808 <http://fws.gov/refuge/DeSoto>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2012

Contact:

Ken Block, 712.388.4803, Kenneth_block@fws.gov

Art by Pam Cates on Display at DeSoto National Wildlife Refuge

Missouri Valley, Iowa - The plein air watercolors of local Missouri Valley artist Pam Cates are on display now at the DeSoto Visitor Center. Seen through Pam's artistic eye, her paintings feature DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges, the Loess Hills and the Missouri River Valley. The exhibit runs from August 27-October 9, 2012.

Cates is primarily a plein air watercolor painter, meaning she paints outside on location. "Plein air painting combines my love for the landforms I find outside my door, nature and watercolor painting. I find this the best way for me to seek out the combination of immersing myself in the environment and expressing it with paint on paper," says Cates, "Each painting brings back the memory of that day, time of year, weather, and yes, even bugs. I hope this encourages the viewer to further appreciate and explore the natural resources we are blessed with."

An entrance permit is required for all vehicles. The daily entrance fee for private vehicles is \$3.00. Permits may be obtained at the pay stations near the entrances or at the Visitor Center. The charge for commercial vans and buses is \$20, or \$30 if 21 or more people are aboard. Annual permits, including the \$15 DeSoto Refuge Pass, can be obtained at the visitor center.

DeSoto & Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges are located north of Omaha, Nebraska along on U.S. Highway 30 between Missouri Valley, Iowa and along U.S. Highway 75 near Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska. For more information contact 712/388-4800 or email the refuge at desoto@fws.gov. Check our websites, www.fws.gov/refuge/desoto/ or www.fws.gov/refuge/boyerchute/, for refuge updates. Like us on Facebook - search for DeSoto and Boyer Chute National Wildlife Refuges.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.